

REMARKS

Posture of the case and action by Applicant herein

Claims 1-29 were originally filed. The present Office action of March 14, 2007, is a first Office action and includes rejections of all claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as well as objections to the drawings and specification. In order to overcome the rejections and objections, Applicant herein responsively amends the claims, the specification, and FIG. 1 of the drawings.

Drawing objections

The drawings stand objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) on grounds that they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the specification: "local area network 10." Applicant responsively herein presents a replacement sheet 1 of 8, amending Fig. 1 to show a label for local area network 10.

Specification objections

The disclosure stands objected to on grounds that the following are informalities: acronyms (i.e., DOS, LAN, IT, GSM, WAN, etc.) throughout the specification without first including a description in plain text. Applicant responsively herein amends the specification to set out the well-known plain text for all acronyms used.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) on grounds they are unpatentable over 7,143,113 ("Radatti"). In order to overcome the rejections, Applicant herein responsively cancels claims 1-2 and 11-29, submits new claims 30-48, and amends claims 3-10.

Applicant respectfully submits that newly submitted, independent claims 30, 31 and 40 are patentably distinct. The claims, as amended, indicate that first hash values, at least second hash values, and current hash values are computed for replicas of a resource. Also, these claims indicate that at least second hash values are computed after the first, and the current hash values are computed after the at least second hash values, and time stamps are stored. Further, independent claims 30, 31 and 40 go on to state that "the hash values computed at successive times [are compared] for each respective instance of the resource, in order to identify whether matching hash values exist."

In addition, independent claims 30, 31 and 40 state that time stamps are compared "for matching hatch values of each respective instance of the resource," and that "a time duration

during which the hash values of each respective instance of the resource remained unchanged" is computed "responsive to the time stamp comparison." The cited references do not teach or suggest at least this claimed feature, neither alone, nor in combination.

Still further, these claims state that for a current time and "responsive to the hash value comparison indicating that instances of the resource have changed from one time to the current time," detecting "whether the changed instances of the resource at the current time indicate a vulnerability" includes "detecting whether the computed time duration prior to the current time exceeds a predetermined time duration" and also "detecting whether changed instances of the resource exist are more numerous than a predetermined number." The cited references do not teach or suggest at least this claimed feature, neither alone, nor in combination.

Finally, newly submitted, independent claims 30, 31 and 40 state that a message is presented to a user "indicating the changed instances of the resource are due to a vulnerability, wherein the presenting is responsive to the predetermined number of changed instances of the resource being exceeded and the predetermined time duration being exceeded." The cited references do not teach or suggest at least this claimed feature, neither alone, nor in combination.

For at least these reasons, newly submitted, independent claims 30, 31 and 40 are patentable distinct. In addition, amended, dependent claims 3-10 and newly submitted, dependent claims 32-39 and 41-48 are allowable at least because they depend on allowable dependent claims.

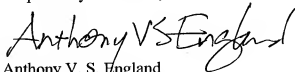
No new matter is added, since the original application provides support for the amendment to claim 1. See original published application, paragraphs 0003, 0048, 0051 (computing first, second, and current hash values for replicas of a resource, where the computing of the second hash values is after the first, etc.; storing time stamps; and comparing hash values computed at successive times for each respective instance of the resource, in order to identify whether matching hash values exist); paragraph 0082 (comparing the time stamps for matching hash values of each respective instance of the resource and responsive to the time stamp comparison, computing a time duration during which the hash values of each respective instance of the resource remained unchanged); paragraphs 0118 (detecting for a current time whether the changed instances of the resource at the current time indicate a vulnerability and doing so responsive to the hash value comparison indicating that instances of the resource have changed

from one time to the current time, including detecting whether the computed time duration prior to the current time exceeds a predetermined time duration and detecting whether changed instances of the resource exist are more numerous than a predetermined number); paragraphs 0095, 0111 (presenting a message to a user indicating the changed instances of the resource are due to a vulnerability); and paragraphs 0118 (the presenting is responsive to the predetermined number of changed instances of the resource being exceeded and the predetermined time duration being exceeded).

REQUESTED ACTION

Applicant contends that the invention as claimed in accordance with amendments submitted herein is patentably distinct, and hereby requests that Examiner grant allowance and prompt passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony V. S. England
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,129
PO Box 5307
Austin, Texas 78763
512-477-7165
a@aengland.com

Attachments: Replacement sheet 1 of 8